

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

Richard Alan Haase

Application No.: 90/005,710

Filed: 4/24/2000

Title: Method for Dewatering of Sludge
(Reexamination of U.S. Pat. 5,846,435)

Attorney Docket No.: 0170SS-44897

Group Art Unit:
1724

Examiner: C. Barry

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED 12/04/00

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

FAX RECEIVED

Dear Sir:

MAR 15 2001

PETITIONS OFFICE

AMENDMENT

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for dewatering biological sludge that has been digested by a thermophilic digestion process to form biological thermophiles comprising:
 - a. adding at least one polymeric quaternary ammonium compound[s], as a functionally primary component, to the biological sludge; [and]
 - b. adding at least one polyacrylamide to the biological sludge;
 - c. coagulating the biological thermophiles to form microflocs whereby said at least one polymeric quaternary ammonium compound functions as a primary component in forming microflocs; and
 - d. flocculating the microflocs with said at least one polyacrylamidesuch that [any] the combination[s] of the polymeric quaternary ammonium compound[s] and of the polyacrylamide[s] enhances dewatering of the sludge.
15. (Amended) A composition for dewatering biological sludge that has been digested by a thermophilic digestion process to form biological thermophiles according to claim 1